

Mr. Speaker, I request you and my colleagues to join me as we congratulate Colonel Joseph M. Murray's service to Marine Corps Base Quantico.

HONORING PAULINE A. ELLISON,  
THE 6TH NATIONAL PRESIDENT  
OF THE LINKS, INC.

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT  
OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 27, 2018*

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Pauline A. Ellison, the sixth National President of the Links, Inc. The Links, Inc. is an international not-for-profit and one of our nation's oldest and largest volunteer service organizations committed to enriching, sustaining, and ensuring the culture and economic survival of African Americans and other persons of African ancestry. This week, the Links, Inc. gather for their 41st National Assembly in Indianapolis, Indiana where they will honor their current and past national presidents.

Pauline A. Ellison was born in Iron Gate, Virginia and graduated from Watson High School in Covington, Virginia. She was valedictorian of her class and matriculated to Howard University on a full scholarship. As a student at Howard University, she majored in Chemistry and graduated with honors. After college, she became the first African American woman to be named as an employee relation's officer at the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). During her tenure at HUD, she served as the Vice President of the Hubert Humphrey Committee on Back-To-School programs and assisted with President Lyndon B. Johnson's Youth Programs where she helped train and educate thousands of young people.

Through her strong interest in the academic development of young people, she founded the Northern Virginia Chapter of Jack and Jill and served on the boards of Burgundy Farm Country Day School and the United Way. Mrs. Ellison attended Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service and was nominated to attend the Federal Executive Institute in Charlottesville, Virginia. Following her time at Georgetown, Mrs. Ellison received her Master's in Public Administration from American University. She spent two years in Germany and served as the vice president of the Hahn Officers Wives' Club, where she developed and implemented programs for American-German orphans and American Girl Scouts.

Pauline A. Ellison was one of several members who charted the Arlington Chapter of The Links, Inc., on November 19, 1966. She served as vice president and president of the Arlington Chapter and was later appointed as the National Director of Services to Youth. In that role, she compiled and distributed a single publication listing the activities of every chapter in each program facet. During The Links, Inc. National Assembly in 1974, Pauline A. Ellison was elected to serve as the 6th National President.

Under Mrs. Ellison's administration, she implemented a national headquarters with paid staff. It wasn't until the end of her second term, that the headquarters was fully operational. As national president, she continued

her support of national and community service programs by representing The Links, Inc. in other major service organizations such as the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the National Urban League, Opportunities Industrialization, Inc., and the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund. One of her biggest accomplishments was the fulfillment of The Links' pledge to contribute half a million dollars to the United Negro College Fund (UNCF). Due to her transformative leadership, Mrs. Ellison was honored by numerous national and civic organizations for her tireless dedication to public service.

Following the completion of her term as National President, she served in several other roles with The Links, Inc., as a member of the Executive Council for four years and the National Personnel Committee for eight years. She also assisted in the organization, staffing, and implementation of personnel policies and procedures for the national headquarters. She continued her service to the County of Arlington, Virginia by serving in numerous leadership roles in local civic organizations. For six years, she served as a delegate and president of the International Service Club Council—an organization of 32 recognized service organizations in Arlington County.

Mrs. Ellison served as community advisor to the Board of Directors of Arlington Hospital and as secretary of the Women's Committee of the Washington Performing Arts Society. Concurrently, she served as community advisor to the Northern Virginia Junior League and assisted the county as a member of the Classification and Pay Committee, responsible for advising the county in a comprehensive study and revision of its total classification and pay system for all employees.

She was the first African American woman to become a member of the Board of Directors of Central Fidelity Banks, Inc., where she served on the public policy committee. While serving on the board, the corporation contributed one million dollars to support education of minority students.

Mr. Speaker, Pauline A. Ellison has never sought public recognition for her hard work and dedication to the community. She has dedicated her life to the advancement, growth, and success of The Links, Inc. and to the County of Arlington, Virginia, in which she still resides. Her efforts and dedication as the 6th National President have elevated the organization to one of prominence and service to the community. She has been supported by her husband, Dr. Oscar Ellison, Jr., her children, Oscar Ellison III, Paula Mitchell, and Karla Ellison. As the Links, Inc. gather in Indianapolis for their 41st National Assembly, I join them in paying tribute and honoring the remarkable service of Pauline A. Ellison.

CONGRATULATIONS VAN D. HIPPI,  
JR.

HON. JOE WILSON  
OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 27, 2018*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate former Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army, Van Hipp, on the establishment of the Hipp Center for National

Security and Foreign Policy at Wofford College in Spartanburg, South Carolina.

The Hipp Center provides experiential learning options for students interested in international relations, which includes student opportunities for internships in national security and foreign policy and an upcoming exchange program. Van founded the Hipp Lecture Series on International Affairs and National Security in 2011 which has since hosted many great American lecturers including President Donald Trump, Secretary Ben Carson, and Governor George Pataki.

Speaker Newt Gingrich said of the center, "Van Hipp has spent a lifetime working to defend America and defeat our enemies. This new Center for National Security and Foreign Policy will help a new generation learn the key lessons which shaped Van's life."

Hipp is a former chairman of the South Carolina Republican Party and is now chairman of American Defense International, Inc., in Washington. He serves on the board of directors of the American Conservative Union and on the National Capital Board of the Salvation Army. Van Hipp's enduring generosity will positively impact both students at Wofford College and South Carolinians for years to come.

REFUSE ACT

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 27, 2018*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Repelling Encroachment by Foreigners into U.S. Elections (REFUSE) Act. As the costs of campaigns rise exponentially, the question remains: how much inappropriate foreign influence has risen as well?

Being a viable candidate in an American election requires an unprecedented amount of capital. Following Citizens United, which threw open the floodgates for billionaires and special interests to spend unlimited secret money on our elections, it's impossible to know exactly how much of that money comes from foreign nationals.

This bill will stop the free flow of foreign money into our elections through dark channels and increase transparency around foreign election influence.

It achieves this through two major reforms. First, the bill will prohibit election spending by foreign-influenced corporations and 501(c)(4) nonprofit organizations at two thresholds of foreign ownership interest/funding: 20 percent for foreign nationals and a more strict 5 percent if those foreign parties are directly connected to foreign governments.

Second, the bill will modernize and tighten reporting requirements of the Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA) and expand the Department of Justice's FARA enforcement authority.

Look no further than the pervasive impact of Russian-sponsored political ads on Facebook to see why we need to maximize transparency. We must close the loopholes within our broken campaign finance system. Until we repeal Citizens United, we need common-sense restraints to ensure foreign interests do not influence American democracy, especially from the shadows.